

CLAIMS:

1. A display device comprising electrophoretic particles, a display element comprising a pixel electrode and a counter electrode between which a portion of the electrophoretic particles are present, and control means for supplying a drive signal to the electrodes to bring the display element in a predetermined optical state corresponding to the
5 image information to be displayed, characterized in that control means are further arranged for supplying a preset signal preceding the drive signal comprising a preset pulse having an energy sufficient to release the electrophoretic particles at a first position near one of the two electrodes corresponding to a first optical state, but too low to enable the particles to reach a second position near the other electrode corresponding to a second optical state, and in that
10 the control means are further arranged for supplying the preset signal, in anticipation of or upon receipt of a power-up or image change operation.
2. A display device as claimed in claim 1, for devices having a touch button, wherein the control means are arranged to initiate preset pulses starting at a touch time
15 shorter than the touch time for initiating an update of the image data.
3. A display device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the control means are further arranged for generating an even number of preset pulses.
- 20 4. A display device as claimed in claim 1 wherein one of the electrodes comprises a data electrode and the other electrode comprises a selection electrode and the control means further comprising first drive means for applying a selection signal to the selection electrodes and second drive means for applying a data signal to the data electrode.
- 25 5. A display device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the display device is provided with an active matrix addressing to provide the data signals to the pixel electrodes of the display elements.